

## ALBURGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Alburgh parish council meeting held on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm in Alburgh Village Hall.

**1. Welcome by the chairman;** Cllr Thompson welcomed Cllr Swanston, Cllr Croucher, Cllr Newson, Cllr Chris Brown; District councillor, Mrs J Loveday; clerk and 2 members of the public.

**2. To receive apologies from members unable to attend** – Cllr Hall, Cllr Price

**3. To receive any declarations of interest from members on any item to be discussed at this meeting** – None

**4. To approve and sign the minutes of the last parish council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023.** The minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Thompson as a correct record.

**5. Open Forum for public participation (maximum 10 minutes): an opportunity to hear from members of the public**  
None

**6. To discuss matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting which are not on the agenda**

Cllr Thompson has compiled a report from the Village Questionnaire. Out of approx. 200 that were handed out, 18 responses were received. The results will be collated and advertised. It was agreed that we will do this again next year.

**7. To receive reports from District and County Councillors**

Chris Brown, District Councillor reported as follows:

- The sale of South Norfolk House has been agreed and this will now progress and should complete early in the new year. The proposal is to re develop the site.
- The Council is continuing to encourage participation in the Homes for Ukraine scheme.
- Village Clusters; sites for houses are being allocated.
- £1,500 has been awarded to replace/remove the boiler for the youth area.
- Black Dog running club are planning to build an indoor running area with costs circa £35,000. They have applied for funding.

**8. To discuss any correspondence received**

We have received an email from a parishioner requesting to put some small wooden posts on the verge of their property to protect the verge. All councillors were in agreement.

**9. To receive inspection reports on Playing Field and Homersfield Picnic Site and discuss quotation from Sovereign Play.**

Cllr Swanston did inspection. The playing field was all in good order. The bin at the bottom of the playing field has a hole in and the one at the side has two holes. It was agreed to take these out and maybe replace with metal bins. To discuss further at next meeting. We will ask South Norfolk to empty bin on playing field.

We have received a quotation from Sovereign Playgrounds for some new equipment. The clerk will contact Barry Stone to see if there are any grants available.

The play area inspection has taken place. Cllr Swanston will talk with Cllr Price and come up with a list of priorities for equipment replacement and repairs. It was agreed to pressure wash the equipment.

**10. Village Items**

*Update on Film Nights and Saturday film matinee*

The January film matinee will be Openheimer and will start at 2.00pm.

The family Christmas movie will be shown on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2023. This will be a free performance.

*To receive update on boules/pétanque pitch*

No updates as the weather has been very wet. Cllr Thompson will speak to a gentleman in the village about a mini digger. If this does not work out we will leave until the better weather in the Spring.

#### *Update from meeting with Gary Overland*

Following our site meeting, Gary Overland supports Gateway signs but not the speed limit being reduced. To replace the existing speed limit terminal signs with 2 gateway signs would cost £5,760. This is subsidised by 50%. We could submit a bid for a single village gateway which would cost £2880 this year and then replace the other at a later date. Discussion following this and it was felt that 2 would have more impact and would be better to do both at once. The clerk will go back to Gary Overland to ask a few questions for clarification and report back at next meeting. Cllr Thompson will speak to Westcotec about the speed signs which have "smiley faces".

#### **11. Other Parish Council Items**

##### *Update on village hall notice boards*

This has been delivered and discussions followed on where to put this. It was agreed we would ask Gary Overland if we can put the notice board to the right of the entrance to car park. We can revamp the map at a later date.

##### *Discussion on Allotments at Wortwell and quote for hedge cutting*

It was agreed that we would ask Barry from Excite Solutions to cut the hedge as per his quote of £240 plus VAT. After discussing the allotments it was agreed that our best option would be to hand them over to Wortwell pc. The clerk will report this to the clerk of Wortwell pc.

#### **12. To report on planning decisions, applications commented on since last meeting**

Ref: 2023/3030 – Piccadilly Cottage, Low Road, Alburgh. Installation of a new toilet and hand basin on the first floor under the stairs leading to the second floor. Councillors all supported this application.

#### **13. Finance: To approve payments to be made**

Mrs J Loveday clerk salary £262.27 for 2 months plus working from home allowance £26.00

Ian Smith for grass cutting for October £445.00

Moviola Ltd, Film Hire £91.35 for Allelujah, £96.00 for Local Hero

David Bracey Play Safety Inspection £120.00

The church notice board company £1,410.00

Materials for refurbishment of garden benches £73.34

Clerk's salary will be increased by £1.00 per hour in line with NALC rates and this will be backdated to April 2023.

#### **Receipts**

SNC 2<sup>nd</sup> Precept £3,250.00

SNC CIL Ref 2021/2679 £417.30

#### **14. To receive items for the next Agenda, Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Any other items for the next agenda please contact the clerk.

Precept/Budget setting

Millennium Garden

Replacing Bins on Playing field

Cllr Thompson thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.45pm.